(b) whether negotiations with the firms had started as early as in 1987;

(c) whether other competitive offers were rejected by the erstwhile Government and Durgapur Steel Plant management; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Survey for Imposition of tax on the rural rich

1057. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to conduct a survey to study whether tax could be imposed on the rural rich; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Income of all persons from sources other than agriculture is chargeable to tax under the provisions of the Income-tax Act. Survey of business and commercial premises is undertaken by the Income-tax Department in both urban and rural areas to locate persons, having taxable income but are not being assessed to tax.

News-item captioned 'Charges against Mamaji'

1058. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Charges against 'Mamaji' which appeared in the Indian Express of 29th March, 1990; if so, what are the specific charges against Mamaji and threat by Swamy to disclose the political connections;

(b) whether any efforts are being made to bring back the high flying Swamy from abroad to complete legal process under law; and

(c) what are the difficulties in taking legal action against him?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

The specific charge under FERA is that during the year 1985 Shri Kailash Nath Aggarwal @ Mamaji in association with Shri Chandra Swami acquired Foreign exchange of U.S. $50 lakhs and instead of surrendering it to an authorised dealer in India, transferred the same to the account of a person resident outside India in contravention of the provisions of FERA, 1973.

(b) and (c) Shri Chandraswami is out of India as per the permission granted to him by Delhi High Court in a case under investigation by CBI. The Directorate of Enforcement has issued summons to Shri Chandra Swami in this case.

News-item Captioned 'Closing in'

1059. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the report in Sunday Magazine 18—24 March, 1990 captioned "Closing in" and state whether the contents have revealed that the Enforcement Directorate findings have any semblance of truth and if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): Yes, Sir.

The specific charge under FERA is that during the year 1985 Shri Kailash Nath Aggarwal @ Mamaji in association with Shri Chandra Swami acquired Foreign Exchange of U.S. $50 lakhs and instead of surrendering it to an authorised dealer in foreign exchange transferred the same to the account of a person resident outside India in contravention of the provisios of FERA, 1973. The Directorate of Enforcement have issued summons to Shri Chandra Swami in the case. Shri Kailash Nath Aggarwal @ Mamaji was arrested on 24-2-90 and was in judicial custody till 25-4-90

Jordans Ban on Import of Meat from India

1060. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRIMATI KAILASHPATI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what according to Government are the reasons for Jordan banning import of meat from India; and

(b) what is the position of actual export from India after lifting the ban by Jordan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) and (b) Jordan banned import of meat from India reportedly due to foot and mouth disease among animals in some parts of India and unhygienic conditions under which Indian meat was produced. The ban was lifted during December, 1989 when the matter was taken up with the Jordanian authorities. The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has reported that an estimated quantity of 141 MTs of frozen buffalo meat valued at Rs. 29.60 lakhs has been exported to Jordan during March, 1990.

बैंकों में अनियमितताओं के लिए जिम्मेदार पाये गये अधिकारी

1061. श्री राम जेठमलानी :
सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 10 अप्रैल, 1990 के फाइनेंसियल एक्सप्रेस" में 'थ्री बैंक्स स्ट्रक विद बैड एडवांजज आंफ रु 1,912 क्रोर्स" शीर्षक के अंतर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने उपर्युक्त समाचार में उल्लिखित अग्रिमों के बारे में विस्तृत जांच करायी है ; और

(ग) जांच के दौरान पता लगायी गई अनियमितताओं के लिये दोषी पाये गये अधिकारियों के नाम तथा पदनाम क्या-क्या हैं और उनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री अनिल शास्त्री) : (क) से (ग) सरकार ने दिनांक 19 अप्रैल, 1990 के फाइनेंशियल एक्सप्रस, नई दिल्ली में प्रकाशित माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उल्लिखित समाचार को देखा है।

सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों सहित सभी वाणिज्यिक बैंक अपने सांविधिक लेखा परीक्षकों की तसल्ली के अनुसार अशोध्य एवं संदिग्ध ऋणों के संबंध में अपनी देनदारी को पूरा करने के लिए अपनी वार्षिक आय में से प्रत्येक वर्ष व्यवस्था करते हैं । बैंककारी विनियमन अधिनियम, 1949 की तीसरी अनुसूची में निर्धारित तुलन पत्र एवं लाभ व हानि लेखे के फार्मों के अनुसार, जिनका सभी बैंकों को कड़ाई के साथ पालन करना होता है और बैंकरों में प्रचलित प्रथाओं एव रीतिरिवाजों के अनुसार, बैंकों को उन अशोध्य एवं संदिग्ध ऋणों की रकम को प्रकट करने से सांविधिक सुरक्षा प्रदान की जाती है जिनके लिए उनके सांविधिक लेखा परीक्षकों की तसल्ली के अनुसार व्यवस्था कर ली गई है ।